

Agency Information

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LEE NAPIER
ROLANDO MASFERRER

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MM 97-254

October 8, 1959: DANIEL BATISTA, JR., active in anti-TRUJILLO activities, attempted to participate in invasions of the Dominican Republic and previously arrested in Miami by U. S. Customs agents under the Neutrality Act.

On August 3, 1959, AL TARABOCHIA, Detective, Intelligence Unit, Dade County Department of Public Safety, advised that NAPIER had recently sent some of his detectives out to the Miami International Airport to watch certain Cuban Air Force planes being repaired at the Air International Company. TARABOCHIA said that the airport was outside of the city and not within NAPIER's jurisdiction, and that NAPIER's interest in these airplanes had not been ascertained.

TARABOCHIA stated that ROLANDO MASFERRER, former Cuban Senator, recently moved to 2339 N. W. 41st Street, recently had a revolutionary meeting at that address, and that NAPIER attended this meeting.

TARABOCHIA stated that NAPIER and a member of his Intelligence Unit, Sergeant SAPP, are in close contact with MASFERRER. TARABOCHIA said that Patrolman AL ABREIRA, member of NAPIER's unit, is in close contact with MARIANO FAGET, former Cuban Colonel in BRAC.

On August 24, 1959, RICHARD B. JAFFE, PSI, advised that NAPIER had been in close contact with MASFERRER, and visits MASFERRER frequently. NAPIER attempted to purchase MASFERRER's yacht at a ridiculously low price, which would have been a way of paying NAPIER for services done for MASFERRER. However, MASFERRER was counselled against selling his yacht to NAPIER.

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JAFFE said that AL ABREIRA, a member of NAPIER's Intelligence Unit, has received gifts of cigars and other favors from MASFERRER in return for courtesies which the Miami Police Department has extended to MASFERRER's associates.

On August 27, 1959, Mr. WALLACE SHANLEY, U. S. Customs Agent, Miami, advised that NAPIER investigates matters that are within the Federal jurisdiction and over which NAPIER would have no jurisdiction or interest as a local policeman. SHANLEY stated that NAPIER recently met Mrs. CATHERINE TAAFE of New York City at the Miami International Airport, and they had a long conversation. Mrs. TAAFE gave NAPIER a lot of information, of which he checked out all logical leads on it and probably reported to Mrs. TAAFE.

On September 10, 1959, Mr. FRANK WATERSON, State Department Security, Miami, advised that in the case involving a C-74 airplane which was confiscated on May 22, 1959, by U. S. Customs Agents and which resulted in the arrest of the Dominican Consul in Miami, AUGUSTO FERRANDO, someone mentioned NAPIER in connection with some "payment". Mr. WATERSON said that possibly the Supervising Customs Agent, Miami, may have some information about this allegation.

Mr. WATERSON said that CARLOS FERNANDEZ, Honorary Consul of Uruguay and a Miami City Judge, had previously made statements indicating that he did not have any confidence in NAPIER and "sneered" when NAPIER's name was mentioned.

Mr. WATERSON said that there is a Miami attorney named NORMAN HOFT, located in the Ainsley Building. HOFT represented ALONZO HIDALGO, former Cuban Consul in Miami who was involved in the riot on July 4, 1959. HOFT has some connections in Latin-American circles and has indicated to WATERSON that NAPIER may be involved in activities not within the scope of his employment.

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